REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone interview, which included one of the inventors Dietrich Quehl from Germany. During that interview, the claim language presented herein was discussed and how it distinguished over the Foody reference. At the conclusion of the interview, the Examiner requested that Applicants indicate whether or not they are relying on the filing date of the parent application or the filing date of this continuation-in-part application. Applicants are relying on the continuation-in-part application filing date – namely February 1, 2001. Of course for non-statutory bar type prior art, Applicants will rely on the conception date.

The Examiner also requested that Applicants point out support in the CIP application specification for the "user runtime" language in the claims.

Applicants note at the top of page 2, lines 1-4 under the Background of the Invention portion of the specification wherein the following is stated:

> "The relationships between classes, objects and instances traditionally had been established during 'build time' for generation of the object oriented computing environment, i.e., prior to 'runtime' or execution of the object oriented to computing environment."

Thus the specification defines the difference between "user runtime" and "build time".

Next, as pointed out at page 6, lines 16-20, is the preferred embodiment each component is implemented as a shared library which is dynamically loadable at runtime and is dynamically connectible. Also see page 6, lines 21-23 indicating that each component is a shared library dynamically loadable at runtime.

See also page 11, line 2 describing reconfiguring components at runtime.

As explained to the Examiner during the interview, claim 1 distinguishes over Foody at least in the following ways. Significantly, Foody combines components at

developer "build time" not at user "runtime". Fig. 12b of Foody referenced at column 19, line 51 shows "build time", not runtime. Fig. 12b shows linking at the time that programs are being written and linked by the programmer or developer at "build time". See "the system linked into application". This is not a user loading and linking of programs at runtime. See also column 1, lines 60-63 referring to development time, not user runtime in relation to C++ calling mechanisms. Also see column 3, lines 41-45 which is a description during the building phase and not the user phase (tool creates an object class in the foreign object system that contains only the code necessary to forward requests to the native object). This "stub" code is then compiled and linked into an application. See also column 3, lines 46-53 discussing developers in relation to creating objects – again a reference to building or developing and not using by a user. See also column 10, lines 10-15 referring to a suite of generic capabilities which may be used by OSA and replaced with capabilities specific to an individual object system – again development time, not the user at runtime.

Claim 1 also distinguishes over Foody at least by reciting that at user runtime the new and stored software components are combined without changing any code within the software components and without writing any adapters. In Foody at column 10, lines 45-49 he states:

> "Typically, each OSA would have to override some capabilities of the generic mechanisms."

This means that writing of adapters is required. Claim 1 thus also distinguishes over this portion of Foody.

As to the secondary references "Microsoft Computer Dictionary" and "Design Patterns, Elements of Reuseable Object-Oriented Software", both of these references also suffer from the same deficiencies as Foody – namely they do not

teach dynamic linking at user runtime combined with the concept of not changing any code within the software components and without writing any adapters at user runtime.

Dependent claims 2-8 distinguish at least for the reasons noted with respect to claim 1 and also by reciting additional inventive features.

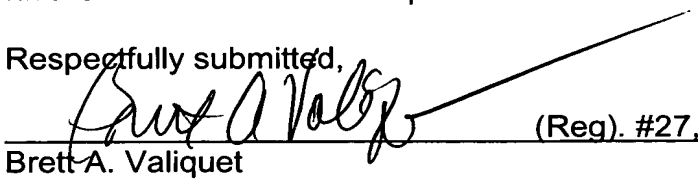
Independent claims 9, 10, 14 and 18 all have language similar to claim 1 and distinguish at least for the reasons noted with respect to claim 1. Also the respective dependent claims dependent on those independent claims are also allowable at least for the reasons the independent claims are allowable and also by reciting additional features not suggested in the respective independent claims.

As indicated during the telephone interview, the inventor Mr. Dietrich Quehl remains ready to further discuss this case in a telephone interview from Germany and will make himself available for further discussions if the Examiner believes this would be helpful.

As further indicated during the interview, if necessary a Request for Continued Examination may be filed if the Examiner deems it appropriate for continued prosecution.

Applicants again thank the Examiner for the telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on September 1, 2006.

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